

## **COLUMBIA CITY PARKING ACTION STRATEGY**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The *Columbia City Parking Action Strategy* was developed between April 2002 and September 2003 by the members of the Columbia City Parking Workgroup in conjunction with SDOT's *Making the Parking System Work* program. Existing planning documents, such as the *Columbia City/Hillman City Neighborhood Plan*, were reviewed for parking opportunities and priorities.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Short-Term Goals:** The theme of the short-term goals is to quickly make more parking available for short-term customer parking. The Workgroup would like to see these changes made in 2003.

- **Goal #1: Increase On-Street Parking** - Create new on-street parking spaces for businesses in the downtown area, for residents, and for library patrons.
- **Goal #2: Increase Enforcement for Short-Term Parking** - Ensure there is adequate turnover in on-street parking spaces.
- **Goal #3: Increase Short-Term Parking Supply** - Ensure that appropriate regulations (1-hour or 2-hour time limits) exist in the commercial area for customers, clients and visitors.
- **Goal #4: Install Parking Directional Signage** - Install directional signage to direct customers and visitors to the supply of on- and off-street parking available off of Rainier Ave S in and near the downtown business core.

**Mid-Term Goals:** In the mid-term, the goals of the workgroup are two-fold: 1) to make the best use of existing off-street parking, and 2) to create programs that educate and encourage visitor and clients about parking opportunities and encourage ways to reduce drive-alone trips to area businesses, events, and services. The workgroup intends many of these changes to be made in 2004.

- **Goal #5: Develop Lot Sharing Opportunities** - Look for lot-sharing opportunities between the Library, Post Office, Columbia Plaza, Orca School and other neighborhood parking lots.
- **Goal #6: Develop Marketing and Validation Programs** - Educate visitors to the Library, and area businesses and events about parking opportunities, parking courtesy, and the many means of non-drive-alone transportation to and within Columbia City.

**Long-Term Goals:** Long-term goals of the workgroup include increasing the parking-related resources the business community has at its disposal and monitoring the

development of the agreement between the City and Sound Transit regarding the Edmunds Street Light Rail Station.

- **Goal #7: Develop Business Access Package** - Develop programs that provide employees of area small businesses with tools and incentives for getting to work without using a car, or for making fewer drive-alone trips.
- **Goal #8: Address Impacts from Future Developments** - Investigate opportunities to purchase community-owned or business-organization owned parking lots to replace existing off-street facilities as they are developed.
- **Goal #9: Address Impacts from the Edmunds Light Rail Station Opening** - Organize community members to monitor Sound Transit parking-mitigation commitments for the estimated opening of the Edmunds Street Light Rail Station in 2009.